## SUMMARY OF TARIFF POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAY 1, 2007 PROPOSAL

- General Fare Increase. Propose a general fare increase of 2.5% with next-nickel rounding and continued Tariff Route Equity (TRE) phasing. This is in line with the Governor's budget and legislative budget planning assumptions.
  - o General fare increase is applied to Seattle-Bainbridge and all other routes are adjusted based on their TRE relationships.
  - o TRE phasing results in an additional 5% fare increase on the San Juans Interisland route, the only route not yet in TRE alignment.
  - O Continue Tariff review analysis this Spring to address SmartCard and Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) Ferry Finance Study fare-related recommendations. Depending upon the outcome of the legislative session, hold open the option of another fare proposal for October 2007 implementation, if additional fare revenue above what is generated by the 2.5% increase is needed.
- In-Need Organizations. Extend the sunset clause on the program for in-need organizations to April 30, 2008, and modify the program as follows:
  - o Eliminate volume/frequency requirements for qualifying trips, to streamline program management and minimize WSF administrative costs.
  - o Bill monthly and apply credits at approximate rate of appropriate frequent-user discounts.
- **Peak Season Oversize Vehicle Fares.** Adjust peak season fare calculations for oversize vehicles to match original policy intent, with WAC language changes as follows:
  - "PEAK SEASON SURCHARGE A peak season surcharge of 25% shall apply to all oversize vehicles, except for Anacortes to Lopez, Shaw, Orcas, and Friday Harbor. The oversize fare shall be determined based on the peak-season car-and-driver fare, adjusted by the relationship between the base season car-and-driver fare and the analagous oversize vehicle fare. The senior citizen discount shall apply to the driver of an oversize vehicle. A 35% surcharge will apply to oversized vehicles traveling from Anacortes to Lopez, Shaw, Orcas and Friday Harbor."
- Management Discretion for EFS/SmartCard Implementation Issues. Allow WSF management additional discretion to resolve fare-related operational issues resulting from implementation of the Electronic Fare System (EFS) and SmartCard by temporarily modifying certain fare rules or individual fares, after which WSF would bring the issues back to the Tariff Policy Committee (TPC) and Transportation Commission for policy guidance. The following addition to the WAC is proposed:
  - "FARE COLLECTION SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION In order to streamline and expedite the implementation of regional fare collection systems, such as the Electronic Fare System and SmartCard, WSF may temporarily adjust fares or otherwise modify certain fare rules."
- SmartCard Monthly Passes. Monthly passes that are purchased as part of the regional SmartCard program shall have unlimited use (passes would still be deemed "non-transferable").

## Tariff Policy Analysis – Tariff 2006-07

Since SmartCard media is not reproducible, the need for limiting trips is mitigated. Monthly passes purchased through EFS will retain their current monthly usage limits.

- Anacortes-Sidney RV Promotional Fare. Due to the success of the program to date, TPC
  affirms continuation of the special Anacortes-Sidney recreational vehicle and bus promotional
  fare.
- Market Survey. TPC strongly encourages the legislature to fund the market survey recommended in the JTC Ferry Finance Study, in order to assist in future Tariff cycles where time-of-day pricing and other transportation demand management strategies will be evaluated.